RAILWAY TELL-TALE.—A Mr. W. Constable, of Brighton, has suggested the construction of an instrument to be attached to a railway carriage that shall describe on a chart a line, indicating the various speed of a journey. Such a *tell-tale* would act as a wholesome check on a reckless engine driver, and be the means of preventing some of those accidents which are so injurious in their anticipation, and so horrible in their results.

NAVIGATORS' STRIKE.—Several hundred labourers on the Lancaster and Carlisle Railway, near Kendal, have struck for an advance of wages; they demand 4s. per day and fortnightly payments.

COMPENSATION FOR RAILWAY INJURY.—Sir George Hayter, the artist, who received some bruises, owing to the collision at Penshurst in July last, has had a compensation paid him by the South-Eastern directors, it is said, of 2,000*l.*

Messrs. Craven and Sons, the contractors for the Lincoln, Newark, and Nottingham Line, are making rapid progress. The bridge over the Old Witham, leading to the station, near the High-street, is shortly to be commenced.

The Croydon Atmospheric Line is now working daily for ordinary traffic. The London terminus is at the Dartmouth Arms. Trains go up and down once every hour.

MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC BODIES.

During the ensuing week.

MONDAY, Feb. 23.—British Architects, 16, Grosvenor-street, 8 P.M.; Geographical, 3, Waterloo-place 8½ P.M.

TUESDAY, 24. — Civil Engineers, 25, Great George-street, 8 P.M.

WEDNESDAY 25.—Geological, Somerset House, 8½ P.M.; Society of Arts, Adelphi, 8 P.M.

THURSDAY, 26. — Royal, Somerset House, 8½ P.M.; Antiquaries, Somerset House, 8 P.M.; R. S. Literature, 4, St. Martin's-place, 4 P.M.

FRIDAY, 27. — Royal Institution, Albemarle-street, 8½ P.M.; Philological (London Library), 12, St. James's-square, 8 P.M.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

[We are compelled by the interference of the Stamp Office to omit the names of the parties to whom tenders, &c., are to be addressed. For the convenience of our readers, however, they are entered in a book, and may be seen on application at the office of "The Builder," 2, York-street, Covent-garden.]

For the erection of a public station at Halesworth, Suffolk.

For the erection of a wall on the south side of the union workhouse at Worksop, in length about 15 roods.

For supplying the commissioners for paving the town of Dover with 1000 yards of tooled York paving stone, 2,400 feet of curb, and 300 tons of Guernsey pitchers.

For the erection of a part of the river wall on the Liverpool Dock Estate, being about 300 feet in length, and 40 in height.

For repairing and upholding the hand-posts on several of the roads under the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Roads Commission.

For supplying the Ipswich and Bury Railway Company with 50 coal waggons, 30 goods' waggons, 12 passengers' luggage vans, &c.

For the execution of three several contracts for the South Wales Railway Company, being a distance of about 14 miles, and comprising tunnels, earthwork, &c.

For supplying the commissioners of the great Dover-road district, Newington, with the best tooled York paving stone, granite pitching, granite curb, labour, mortar, &c.

For the execution of works on the Leeds, Dewsbury and Manchester Railway, being two contracts of the respective lengths of 2½ miles and 3½ miles.

For the execution of two portions of the Edinburgh and Northern Railway, being of the respective lengths of 3 miles and 5 miles.

For the execution of works on the Glasgow and Ayr Railway.

For the supply of 150,000 sleepers to the Midland, Nottingham and Lincoln, and Syston and Peterborough Railway companies.

For executing the foundations of a tower and small church in Kentish Rag Stone, for the Victoria-park Cemetary Company.

For executing the paviers, and masons' work of the south western district of St. Pancras parish.

For the erection of a house at Ryde, Isle of Wight, for the Royal Victoria Yatch Club.

COMPETITION.

The council of the Royal Agricultural College at Cirencester, offer a premium of 10*l.* for the design (with an estimate) of a farm-house and buildings of stone and blue slate, including all fittings. Outlay not to exceed 2,000*l.* Stone on the spot.

APPROACHING SALES OF WOOD, &c.

BY AUCTION.

At the Crew Arms Inn, Crowcombe, Somerset: 61 maiden oak and 24 maiden ash timber trees, of superior quality and large dimensions.

At the Bear and Ragged Staff, Cumner, near Oxford: upwards of 450 trees, principally elms, some of them large.

At Livermore-park, Suffolk: about 1,300 very superior oak, elm, ash, alder, beech, larch, Scotch spruce, and chesnut trees, and stands, &c.

At the Wortley Inn, Wortley, Yorkshire: 717 oak, ash, alder, birch, elm, asp, sycamore, chesnut, and willow timber trees, and nearly 7,000 oak, ash, birch, and alder poles.

At Little Bentley, Essex: 2,000 very capital larch, fir trees, 500 ash ditto, &c.

At the Red Lion Inn, Worksop: A large quantity of very valuable oak, larch, elm, and beech timber trees, now standing at Clumber and Worksop.

In the Brokers-yard, Brunswick-quay South, Liverpool: 642 logs Cuba mahogany, 30 logs Havana cedar, 1,518 lancewood spars, 16 logs Cuba hardwood, 78 planks Rio rosewood.

At 5, Crown-place, Crown-street, Soho: a large quantity of well-seasoned rosewood, mahogany, zebra, king and satinwood, maple, ebony, coromandel, box, lime-tree, sycamore, dry walnscot, cedar, birch, ash, walnut-tree, beech, brown oak, and pine, in logs, planks, boards and veneers.

At Halstead and Gosfield, Essex: 60 beech and chesnut trees, &c.

At Lowestoft, Suffolk: about 120 tons of superior Swedish bar iron, and 1,500 kegs of best Swedish steel.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A. R. C."—*We do not believe that any person can "teach surveying, levelling, &c. in about a week."*

"X. X. X."—*If the agreement states you are to have "12*l.* per week clear of expenses," you can charge the latter also.*

"J. B." (Newbury.)—*We will look at the pamphlet.*

"H. A. W."—*The work mentioned contains plans and elevations of the buildings. The same publisher as "The Public Works."*

"Exchange, Blackburn."—*In answer to several inquiries respecting the proposed Exchange at Blackburn, Mr. Ellingthorpe, solicitor of that town, on being addressed will afford every information.*

"R. P. J." (Portsea).—*The work referred to is complete in 150 numbers.*

"T. S. R." (Limehouse.)—*A parapet to external wall is not indispensible. The projecting eaves must be incombustible.*

"P. B."—*Seyssel Asphalte has been successfully used for the purpose. Johns' cement would probably be effectual.*

"Fire-proof Buildings."—*To give W. H. I. particulars of the "best method for making an entire building fire-proof," would occupy more time than we can devote to it at this moment. We shall be happy to receive communications on the subject.*

"A Carpenter."—*The hinges may be galvanized after they are made.*

"W. D."—*The date shall be affixed. Proof shall be forwarded. Thanks for the solution, though it came too late.*

"Mr. Cockerell's Lecture."—*We are compelled to postpone the report of the concluding Lecture till next week, when it will appear at considerable length.*

"Subscriber" (Bucks).—*The mixed metal tubing for gas is softer than the tin tubing, and when suspended from a ceiling is liable to "bag." In other situations it seems satisfactory.*

"L. W. C.;" "R. Y.;" "Daniel O'Brien;" "C. Jenkins.;" "R. A. Prior," *have our best thanks.*

"J. R." (Stepney.)—*Outside blinds are permitted by a special modification of the Buildings Act.*

Received.—"C." (Cardiff); "T. A. H.;" "A. 45"; "G. Robins.;" "Budowaik.;" "Decorative Art Society.;" "T. H. jun.;" "An Essay on an improved method of construction for viaducts, &c. by Messrs. Blair and Phillips.;" "The fallacies of Building Societies;" "Messrs. Manby's report on the Madrid and Valencia Railway."

*** Correspondents are requested to address all communications to the EDITOR, York-street.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ROYAL ADELAIDE GALLERY, Lowther Arcade, West Strand.—During the week, the magnificent Tableaux Vivans of Professor Keller, after the works of the greatest Masters both Ancient and Modern, will be continued every Morning and Evening: The New Model of Nichol's Compressed Air Railway, and Pilbrow's Atmospheric Railway, will also be continually exhibited daily; an entirely new entertainment by Mr. J. Russell, entitled an Hour of Table-talk, enlivened with Songs and Anecdotes, will be given every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, during the week; the Concert and Singing every evening, with various other Attractive and Instructive Exhibitions.—Admission One Shilling, Schools Half-price.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—Lectures on Chemistry, with brilliant experiments, by Dr. Ryan, daily, at half-past-three, and on the evenings of Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at nine o'clock. A Lecture on the Atmospheric Railway, by Professor Bachhoffner; a working Model of which, carrying several persons, is exhibiting daily. The additions to the Opaque Microscope, Dissolving Views, and Chromatrope are very effective. The Physioscope. Submarine Experiments by means of the Diver and Diving Bell. Among the various additions to the Working Models is Coleman's new American Locomotive Engine, for ascending and descending Inclined Planes. A magnificent Collection of Tropical Fruits. Mr. Downe, the celebrated Flute-player, will take part in the Music, conducted by Dr. Wallis. Open from Eleven to half-past Five, and from Seven to half-past Ten in the Evening.—Admittance, One Shilling. Schools, Half-price.

CALIGRAPHIC BLACK LEAD PENCIL

Manufactured by E. WOLFF and SON, 23, Church-street, Spitalfields, London.

THE CALIGRAPHIC PENCILS have been invented by E. WOLFF and SON, after the expenditure of much time and labour. They are the result of many experiments; and every effort that ingenuity and experience could suggest has been made to ensure the highest degree of excellence, and the profession may rely upon their being all that can be desired. They are perfectly free from grit; and for richness of tone, depth of colour, delicacy of tint, and evenness of texture, they are not to be equalled by the best Cumberland lead that can be obtained at the present time, and are infinitely superior to every other description of pencil now in use.

The Caligraphic Pencils will also recommend themselves to all who use the Black Lead Pencil as an instrument of professional importance or recreation, by their being little more than half the price of other pencils—

H, HH, HHH, HB, B, BB, F, FF, W° .... 4*s.* per doz.
BBB, FHB ..... 8*s.* "
BBBB ..... 12*s.* "

*** This pencil is particularly recommended for writing and counting-house use.

An Allowance on every Gross purchased by Artists or Teachers.

May be had of all Artists' Colourmen, Stationers, Booksellers, &c.

A single Pencil will be forwarded as a sample, upon the receipt of postage stamps to the amount.

CAUTION.—To prevent imposition a highly finished and embossed protection wrapper, difficult of imitation, is put round each dozen of Pencils. Each Pencil will be stamped on both sides, "Caligraphic Black Lead, E. Wolff and Son, London."

*** The usual trade allowance to stationers, booksellers &c. A Show Box Gratis with an order for a gross of Pencils.

WALLIS'S PATENT LIQUID WOOD KNOTTING.—This newly-discovered Liquid Composition which Messrs. Geo. and Thos. Wallis have the satisfaction of introducing to the trade, possesses the important qualification of effectually stopping Knots in Wood, however bad, and preventing them coming through and disfiguring the paint above.

Many substances have been used and much time spent in endeavouring to find a cure for a bad Knot, but hitherto without success. Messrs. Wallis therefore feel much pleasure in offering to the public an article so long and anxiously called for.

In the application, skill is not required; a boy can use it as well and effectually as the best workmen: it is put on to the work with a brush like common paint, can be used in all climates and situations, and does not require heat.

Sold wholesale and retail, by Messrs. G. and T. Wallis, Varnish, Japan, and Colour Manufacturers, No. 64, Long Acre. Price 20*s.* per gallon.

STEPHENS'S LIQUID OAK, MAHOGANY, ROSE, and SATIN WOOD STAINS, for Staining various sorts of Inferior Woods, so as to give them the appearance and character of the more costly and ornamental kinds; also for reviving the natural colour of Wood Carvings and Panellings, and other ornamental Wood Work, when such has become faded from age or other causes.

IN THE BUILDING AND DECORATING NEW CHURCHES, where it is desirable to give to the cheaper kind of Woods the appearance of Antique Oak, or to make Deal assume the character of Oak Panelling, whereby the effect of the more costly may be produced by the use of a cheaper material, these Stains will be found more effective than any means hitherto employed.

IN OLD MANSIONS AND HALLS, where the Wood Carvings and Panellings have faded, the application of these Stains will be found to revive and bring back the rich natural colour, and which colour may be varied from the lighter to the deeper shades of the most Antique Oak.

The BIRCH WOOD, which has a fine natural grain, with little colour, is particularly suited to the application of these Stains; and the appearance which it assumes after Staining is so near that of the natural wood, that is in only when the grain and colour of the latter is particularly fine that it is preferred. Beech, Birch, Elm, Ash, and other Woods, English and Foreign, receive the Stains and produce various imitations.

For the exposed Timbers of the inside of the ROOFS of CHURCHES, for which north country Timbers and Deals are generally used, by brushing them over with the Stain, which operation is very rapidly, and of course economically, effected, the appearance of an Oaken Roof will be produced. For colouring the backs of the Seats, Pews, the fronts of Galleries, the Pulpit, &c., it is equally advantageous.

Prepared by HENRY STEPHENS, and may be obtained at 84, Stamford-street; of Mrs. ROWLAND, Painter and Glazier, 3, Broad-street, Golden-square; at the Office of "THE BUILDER," 2, York-street, Covent-garden, and in Manchester, at Crake's Marble Works, Garratt-bridge, David-street, at which places specimens of their application may be seen.

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